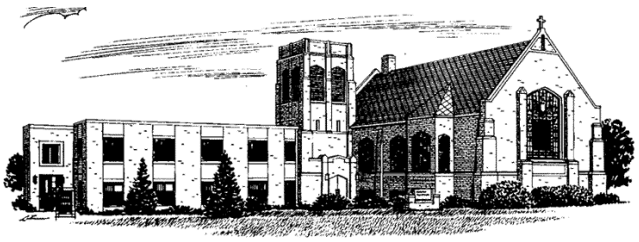


SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: *oleson@saronlutheran.org*

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Bell Choir Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative
Assistant
Nanci Fenrick, Financial Secretary
Email: nanci0126@yahoo.com
Emily Gaul, Child Care

Sundays at Saron:
Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the
Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

June 2018

It's the end of a program year and I'd like to thank to the Sunday School teachers for their dedication and work. Kristen Harper taught the young elementary school children with Scott Gaspari serving as substitute and Jennifer Nicholas, helper. Tyler Cook had the high school class and Eric Standen facilitated the adult class with Jim Oleson acting as sub. Thanks to all, as well as the parents who make sure their children are in attendance.

Also, we thank our choirs and musicians - the senior choir singing virtually every Sunday, with extra services at festival times and the bell choir approximately one time per month. The leadership of Marcus Roll takes both groups to places of excellence and far beyond their own expectations. Irma provides strong leadership on the piano and organ with her musical skills. Saron is a music loving, singing church. The choirs and musicians deepen our worship experience. You are all greatly appreciated!

Summertime often brings differing schedules than a program year. I hope that you will join in the varying opportunities that Saron offers these summer months.

Pastor Joan

SUMMER BEACH WORSHIP

Once again, Saron members and friends can take advantage of the beauty of Lake Michigan as a setting for informal summer worship. Once a month –June 20, July 18, and August 15, all Wednesday nights-we will gather at Lion's Park Beach for a picnic supper at 6:00 p.m., followed by worship at 7:00 p.m. The church will provide hot dogs, brats, condiments, and lemonade. Others are invited to bring a dish to share. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –
We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Lila Roethel** is at the Willows; **Bernice Koski** is at Woodland Terrace; **Virginia Anserello** is at Pine Ridge, Stevensville; and **Jean Pearson** is at Caretel, St. Joseph, MI

Serving in the military:
Andy Wedde – **California**
Sarah Deal Burrow – stateside

Office Hours at Saron
Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9:30 AM - 11 AM+
Nanci (financial secretary): Wednesday 2:15 p.m.
Pastor: most mornings, except Fridays
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.
Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to *oleson@saronlutheran.org*. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to *info@saronlutheran.org*.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in June 2018

June 2 – Daniel Gustafson
Ann Dosch
3 - Steve Hall
4 – June Embree
5 – Judith Huff
Rebecca Schmidt
6 - Danielle Hohman
7 - Elinor Van Egmond
11 - Tyler Cook
12 - Deborah Vollmer
Cynthia Schmidt
Stephania Ngonyani
15 - Hunter Zwar
16 - Marilyn Frey
18 - Rebeccah Strine
James Peterson
19 - Ken Ark
20 - Cami Ashley
22 - Larry Weber
23 – Christopher Cox
24 – Marlene Schalon
24 - Elizabeth Lundgren
26 – Phillip Preston
27 – Bill Teal
29 – David Young
30 – Dena Nesbitt

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members In June.

June 1 - Brian and Coanne Hohman
2 - Robert and Deanna Deaton (47)
14 –Gene and June Embree (66)
16 – David and Kathie Bradley
17 - Pastor Gary and Kathy Cowall (51)
Pastor Joan and Jim Oleson (40)
21 – Dan and Suzanne Fortenbacher
26 – Robert Gulley and Kirsten Talbert
28 - James and Gayle Peterson
30 - William and Janet Oleson (56)

If there is anyone who has been omitted, or, if the dates are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you

CONGRATULATIONS
We wish God's blessings upon Becky Schymanski and Sean VanDyke at their marriage on May 19.

NEW MEMBERS
We welcome into our fellowship the following persons who were received as Saron members on May 20th. Congratulations, Laura, Jim, Liam, and Grace Hicks; Nick Hooper; Rian Huff, Julie Kimmerly; and Joe and Kate Ulrey.

INVITATION

Former member Katie Hebner and her fiancé Michael Lewis invite Saron congregation to their marriage service at Saron on September 1, 2018 at 2:00 pm. Information about the service, reception and RSVP are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex or could be obtained through the church office.. Replies desired by July 30.

LINENS

Jerry and Ruth Stelling have some linen tablecloths they would like to offer Saron members. If you have an interest, they will be available on June 3 and 10 in the dining room.

ADDRESS UPDATES NEEDED

We are working on updating our records so that a non-pictorial directory can be printed in the coming months. If you have a change of address, or a new phone number, please let us know.

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sun. June 3 —
Second Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 5:12-15
Psalm 81:1-10 (1)
2 Corinthians 4:5-12
Mark 2:23—3:6

Sun. June 10 —
Third Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 3:8-15
Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1
Mark 3:20-35

Sun. June 17 —
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 17:22-24
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 (12)
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 4:26-34

Sun. June 24 —
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Job 38:1-11
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 (29)
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41

WORSHIP BULLETINS

If you are interested in using a bulletin with no staples, please ask an usher. There are copies available.

NURSERY NEWS

We always welcome more volunteers and can work with your schedule. If you want to try it out to see if it's something you could do every so often, contact Marilyn Lucy and she will help you pick a date to join our childcare provider and another volunteer. Then maybe you can join our group that lets parents enjoy worship without distraction, knowing their children are safely playing close by.

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!

Saron Volunteer Bell Choir and Senior choir are finishing out a very successful year of enhancing our worship services! But we need your help! We would love to have special music for worship throughout the summer season. This could be anything from a flute solo, singing an old classic, or a kazoo solo of your favorite hymn tune! If you would like help preparing your music or help picking out something to play or sing, don't hesitate to ask Irma or Marcus for assistance. We would love to hear from musicians of all experience levels, don't be shy!

Saron Bell Choir is in need of a few more enthusiastic ringers. Although a basis of music reading is helpful, it is not required. Currently we have 3 positions open in the bell choir, Scott Gaspari graciously covers two positions, Marcus usually ends up playing 1 and we are still 1 ringer down, so we could use more hands! If you would like to learn more about bells, ask Marcus or any of the other bell choir members to show you the ropes. We are planning on starting out next year with simple music so we can all get back to the basics and brush up on technique, so it is the perfect time to join!

PRAYER GROUP

Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which includes lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

Learning

book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The Learning Committee is in need of volunteers for VBS, scheduled Aug 6, 7, 8, 9 (approx 6:30pm to 8:30pm). Volunteers will serve snacks, read books, help with crafts, and shuffle children to destinations. If you can help (for even just one evening), please contact Kristen Harper.

THE EPHESUS GROUP

The Ephesus group will meet on Sunday, June 10, at 3:30 pm at the home of Linda and Charlie Pater. Following some outdoor recreation time, we will do our study and share a simple meal. New people are encouraged to come and try out this active study group -- singles or couples -- all are welcome. Questions? Call Paters (hosts for that day)

BEACH STUDY

Join us at Lions Park Beach for Bible study at 8:30 am on Tuesdays. Wear your jacket, bring a cup of coffee (if desired), and we will study the Scripture for the following Sunday and join in prayer. The conversation usually lasts 45 min to an hour.

MEN'S MONTHLY DEVOTION

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast
There will be **NO** Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast during the summer months, we will resume again in October.

TUESDAY EVENING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Saron's Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study meets at 6:00pm at the church. At 7:00pm we adjourn for a time of fellowship (something to eat and something to drink). We know everyone is busy so Bible study is a "come as you can" group. All men are invited to join in.

For more information call or text Bob Kynast at 269-921-2786 or email at bobkynast@gmail.com

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17).

1ST SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

We are taking a break for the summer. Here are the books we have chosen for our next session, beginning in October, in case you want to get a head start on some good summer reading.

October 7, 2018 " Little Fires Everywhere" by Celeste Ng
February 10, 2019 "40 Autumns" by Nina Willner
November 4, 2018 "Magpie Murders" by Anthony Horwitz
March 3, 2019 "Then She Found Me" by Elinor Lipman
December 2, 2018 "Sister Carrie" by Theodore Dreiser
April 7, 2018 " Young Jane Young" by Gabrielle Zevin
May 5, 2019 "Abide With Me" by Elizabeth Strout

"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home." (Anna Quindlen)

Youth

JUNE MEETING

Saron's Youth Group will be meeting in June for Bible Study and activities. Watch for details! All middle school and high school youth are encouraged to come.. Any non-youth that would like to volunteer and attend, please let Scott know. *scottgaspari@outlook.com*.

HOUSTON BOUND

We're heading to Houston June 26 for the National Youth Gathering. Two youth (Meredith Gacek and Jenna Henderson), as well as two adults (Laurel Gacek and Pastor Joan) are registered. The theme for this event is "This Changes Everything." The primary Scripture will be Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

FUNDRAISER

Thank you for your generous support! In the narthex you will see a display board with a number of envelopes. This offers an opportunity for you to donate monetary support. Some examples: $15 for Gathering t-shirts; $10 for site-seeing in the city; $20 for misc. transportation. It's as simple as taking an envelope, filling it with the designated amount of cash or a check, and drop it in the offering plate or at the display table. Thank you!

GRADUATES

Congratulations to our graduates – both Saron members asnd family members! We will offer a blessing to those in attendance on Sunday, June 3.

Colin Ashley will be graduating from Lakeshore High School. He will be attending Alma College in the fall and will be majoring in history and education.

Pauline N Ngonyani graduated May 11th from Ivy Tech Community College with an Associates of Science in Nursing degree. She plans to continue further with her education.

Jocelyn Frey Hafer got her PhD in biomechanics last June, but walked commencement at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst on May 10.

Hayley Frey is getting her PsyD (doctor of psychology) July 6 at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

Jim Brunner, son of MaryAlice and Ed Brunner, graduated on May 11 from the University of Wisconsin- Madison with a PhD in Applied Mathematics. He has received a post doctoral position at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN working with a colon cancer research team.

Kathryn (Katy) Cowall, granddaughter of Gary & Kathy Cowall, will graduate from Grand Ledge High School, Grand Ledge, Michigan. She will attend Grand Valley State University.

Mia Bradley is graduating from Hollywood Elementary School with plans to attend Lakeshore Middle School.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments

Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Outreach

"Joyfully Sharing God's Love For All." Yes, that is what Saron does every day.

FACEBOOK

We love to share pictures of Saron's ministry on our Facebook page and we get great feedback. It is our practice not to put names with the pictures. If you prefer your own or your family member's picture not to be posted, please let us know, so that we can honor that request

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen

Thank you and God's Blessings to each of you for supporting this mission to feed the hungry in our area. Please contact Jan Stevens@269/429-2044, if you'd like to help work at the SK or bake cookies. Thank YOU!

LWR Fair Trade

Thank you to all who have supported Fair Trade purchases through Lutheran World Relief. We will no longer be selling these items, at least for the near future. We are currently liquidating any present stock for a donation, until all items are sold.

MICHIGAN BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, July 9th is the date to save for donating blood here at Saron. Sign-up sheets will be up at the beginning of this month, and you may sign up anytime from 2:00 – 5:45 pm. Take care to eat and drink well before and after and bring a picture I.D. Snacks are provided and we try to make it as smooth a process as we can. Did you know? – One unit of whole blood can be separated into several components: red cells, plasma, platelets, and cryoprecipitate. Platelets promote blood clotting and can give people with leukemia and other cancers a chance to live. One year = how long frozen plasma can be stored. Now that you know this info, don't you want to be part of the solution for adequate blood supply? Any questions, contact Keith Stevens or Marilyn Lucy or look at MIBLOOD.ORG

Women of the ELCA

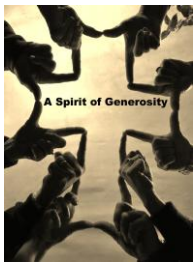
DEBORAH CIRCLE

Deborah Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 13, 2018, at the home of Mary Alice Brunner, 1010 State Street, St. Joseph. Colleen Lundgren will be the Bible study leader.

Support

A Special Message for travelers and those who prefer electronic giving - Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks.

STEWARDSHIP



….with glad and generous hearts, praising God …. Acts 2:46

People have been supporting Saron Lutheran Church since 1875. We have a strong legacy of active members of Saron working to further God's mission in Southwest Michigan and around the world. As we learn in the next few months about some of the needs of our church facility may we each consider all that God has given us and with a sense of gratitude generously pledge to join together to keep Saron strong and thriving.

God's work. Our Hands.

STOCK DONATIONS

Saron partners with TD Ameritrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick to receive the account number for which the shares will be transferred to. Once the transaction has been completed, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick the name of the stock, the number of shares, and the date of the transfer. This allows the transaction to be completed and ensures it is included on your giving statement.

Thanks! Matt Bradley, treasurer

Facilities

GOLDEN HAMMERS NEED HELP!

Golden Hammers is a group of volunteers that meets every Wednesday from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the church. They are women and men that gather to do various jobs in and outside of the church that help keep Saron looking good and also saves the church a considerable amount of money. Work includes folding bulletins, preparing the monthly newsletter for mailing, preparing the sanctuary for Sunday service, minor maintenance and some light cleaning/vacuuming. We really need some additional helpers, both men and women. It is a good fellowship opportunity as well as helping to maintain God's house. Please consider helping and if you have any questions talk to Bill Oleson or Pastor Joan.

HELP NEEDED AFTER SECOND SERVICE

Please consider helping out once every other month with the important job of securing our building after the second service. The job would be to lock all the outer doors, turn off lights and check a few areas in the building. It does not take long and usually you only are assigned once every other month if we have enough help. This is a job that needs to be done and we cannot expect our Pastor to have that responsibility. If you can help or you would like to find out more about the job please contact Janet or Bill Oleson.

USED INK CARTRIGES NEEDED

Please save your used ink cartridges as it saves the church money in office supplies. There is a collection box in the Narthex.

LAWN MOWERS NEEDED

Lawn mowers needed for the summer. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers to mow the yards instead of hiring that work out saved the church an estimated **$1,100.00** in expenses last year. Please sign up to help the church save money on the lawn mowing and keep our grounds looking good. The church has its own lawn mower. There is a sigh-up sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions please see or notify Bill Oleson.

Council News

Attendance Record	
04/22/2018	78
04/29/2018	88
05/06/2018	78
05/13/2018 05/20/2018	103 108

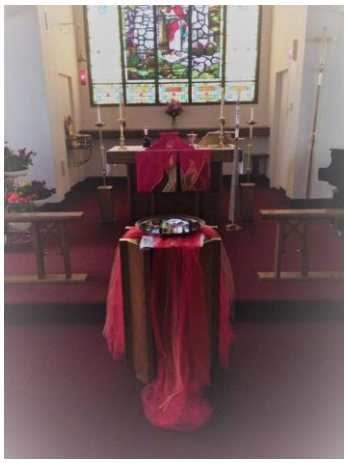
Saron's Council Members – 2018

Karen Hinckley (326-0688) – President
Judi Huff (473-5075) – Vice President
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Treasurer
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Secretary
+++
Tyler Cook (429-5550) – Worship
Brad Frey (921-8618) – Facilities
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Youth
Nolan Becker (269-558-3252) – Youth
Don Hafer (269-470-2255) - Support
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Hospitality
Judy Huff (473-5075) - Hospitality
Kristen Harper (277-9277) – Learning
Amy Nelson (920-227-5354) – Outreach
Joan Oleson (983-1273) office;
983-2475 home)– Pastor

SARON EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



June 2018

Parliamentarian Connor at Synod Assembly along with Saron's voting members.

Saron
June Volunteer Schedule

	June 3 **Second Sunday of Pentecost**	**June 10** **Third Sunday of Pentecost**	**June 17** **Fourth Sunday of Pentecost**	**June 24** **Fifth Sunday of Pentecost**
	9:30	**9:30**	**9:30**	**9:30**
Assisting minister	Bob Kynast	Bob Deaton	Scott Kohs	Tyler Cook
Reader/ Intinction	Laurel Gacek	Karen Hinckley	Judi Huff	Frieda Williams
Ushers	Dave and Sue Bailey	Fritz Knauf and Steve Bell	Dave and Kathie Bradley	Scott and Lindsay Gaspari
Acolytes	Molly Becker	Brooke Henderson	Grant Gacek	Brandon Burrow
Nursery Assistant	Mary Kynast	Janet Oleson	Laura Stark	Deb Standen
Bldg. close	Dave and Kathie Bradley	Dennis and Colleen Lundgren	Bob and Mary Kynast	Brad and Marilyn Frey
Snacks		Karen Johnson		
Flowers	Deaton anniversary & Dave Bradley birthday	Scott & Lindsay Gaspari 8th anniversary	Pastor Joan & Jim Oleson 40th anniversary	Liz Happy Lundgren birthday
Mowing	Weekend of June1-3 Jim Manore	Weekend of June 8-10 Don Hafer	Weekend of June 15-17 Dave Bradley	Weekend of June 22-24 Ed Brunner

June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Worship at 9:30a.m. with Holy Communion Children's Message Graduate Blessing	**4** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**5** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**6** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**7**	**8**	9
10 Worship at 9:30a.m. with Holy Communion Children's Message 3:30 p.m. Ephesus group	**11** Newsletter articles due 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**12** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 P.M. Support Committee	**13** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 6:00 p.m.Picnic 7:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. Deborah Circle Meeting	**14**	**15**	16
17 Worship at 9:30a.m. with Holy Communion Children's Message Father's Day	**18** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	**19** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Vasa Meeting 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**20**	**21**	**22** 3:00 p.m.Wedding	23
24 Worship at 9:30a.m. with Holy Communion Children's Message	**25** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**26** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study YOUTH/PASTOR	**27** IN HOUSTON	**28** ----------	**29** ----------	30 ----------